

Application No. 10/691,914

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is cancelled, claims 2 and 8 are amended, and no new claims are added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takao (U.S. Patent No. 5,775,212). By this amendment, claim 1 has been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this amendment, applicant has amended claim 2 to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1 and it is now submitted that claims 2-7 are in condition for allowance. Claim 8 has also been amended to depend from allowable claim 2 and it is now submitted that claims 8 and 9 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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